

Appl. No. 10/644,400
Amdt. Dated July 26, 2005
Reply to Office Action Mailed April 26, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 9 have been amended. Claims 6-8 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-5 and 9-10 remain pending in the application. The Specification and claim 9 have been amended in view of Examiner's remarks in order to overcome the objections in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

In the April 26, 2005 Office action, claims 2-3 and 6-8 are rejected according to the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112.

In response, applicant has amended claim 2 by replacing the phrase "such as" with "including." Applicant submits that amended claim 2 distinctly claims subject matter as required by 35 U.S.C. 112.

In addition, applicant has changed the dependency of claim 3. Claim 3 now depends from claim 2, which recites "a fixed asset procurement platform." Applicant submits that amended claim 3 distinctly claims subject matter as required by 35 U.S.C. 112.

Furthermore, applicant has canceled claims 6-8 without prejudice.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101

In the April 26, 2005 Office action, claims 6-10 are rejected under 35

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U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In response to this rejection, applicant has canceled claims 6-8, and has amended claim 9. The preamble of amended claim 9 recites "[a] computer implemented fixed assets management method for revaluing a varied fixed asset when a fixed asset variation occurs." As indicated by the preamble, steps as claimed in claim 9 can only be implemented by modules of a computer. Applicant submits that claim 9 as amended claims a technology basis for the purposes of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the April 26, 2005 Office action, claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hollar (US 2003/0126048).

Applicant appreciates Examiner's careful review and analysis of the application in the April 26, 2005 Office action.

In response, as set forth above, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claim 1, as amended, recites in part: a depreciation period setting module for setting appropriate depreciation periods for fixed assets *in accordance with the types of the fixed assets*. Applicant submits that Hollar does not disclose, teach, or otherwise suggest the invention as currently set forth in claim 1, as amended.

Hollar discloses a method and corresponding system for asset-based lease management and accounting. In order to calculate depreciation, a booking subsystem can set depreciation start dates, as well as effective dates for an

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asset's location when a lease is booked (see page 9, paragraph [0106]). However, Hollar does not disclose or suggest any sort of depreciation period setting module used to *set appropriate depreciation periods for fixed assets in accordance with the types of the fixed assets*. That is, Hollar fails to teach or suggest the present invention as set forth in claim 1, as amended. Therefore, applicant submits that claim 1 is novel and unobvious over Hollar under both 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claims 2-5 depend directly from claim 1, and incorporate more features therein respectively. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 2-5 are also novel and unobvious over Hollar under both 35 U.S.C. 102(e), and 35 U.S.C. 103.

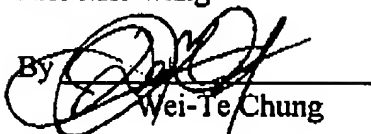
Claim 9, as amended, recites in part: providing a depreciation period setting module to set a new depreciation period for the varied fixed asset *in accordance with the type of the fixed asset*. Applicant submits that Hollar does not disclose, teach, or otherwise suggests the feature of the depreciation period setting module as detailed above. Therefore, applicant submits that claim 9 is novel and unobvious over Hollar under both 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claim 10 depends from claim 9, and incorporates an additional feature therein. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 10 is also novel and unobvious over Hollar under both 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,
Juei-Mei Wang

By 
Wei-Te Chung

Registration No.: 43,325
Foxconn International, Inc.
P.O. Address: 1650 Memorex Drive,
Santa Clara, CA 95050
Tel. No.: (408) 919-6137